

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

DELEGATES' MEETING MINUTES

GERRARDS CROSS GOLF CLUB

Thursday 6 September 2018 - 2.00pm

(Short game coaching clinic 12.30pm – 1.30pm)

PRESENT	Sally Harborne	President
	Gail Sharp	Vice Captain (in the Chair)
	Maura Spencer	Hon Secretary
	Carolyn Rivett	Hon Treasurer
	Janette Psyllides	2nd Team Captain

	Affiliated Club	Delegate	Additional Attendee
1.	Abbey Hill		
2.	Aylesbury Park		
3.	Beaconsfield		
4.	Buckingham		
5.	The Buckinghamshire		
6.	Burnham Beeches	Jackie Maher	
7.	Chartridge Park		
8.	Chesham and Ley Hill	Sandra Eland	
9.	Chiltern Forest		
10.	Datchet		
11.	Denham	Diane Wilson	
12.	Ellesborough		
13.	Farnham Park		
14.	Flackwell Heath	Linda Hubbard	Sue Lawton
15.	Gerrards Cross		
16.	Harewood Downs		Marolyn Griffith
17.	Harleyford	Lesley Cropper	
18.	Hazlemere		Linda Pore (Secretary)
19.	Huntswood		
20.	lver		
21.	lvinghoe		
22.	Lambourne	Gay Clough	
23.	Magnolia Park		
24.	Oakland Park		Lynda Hilton (Captain)
25.	Princes Risborough		
26.	Richings Park		
27.	South Buckinghamshire		
28.	Stoke Park	Anne Worby	
29.	Stowe		
30.	Thorney Park		
31.	Three Locks		
32.	Wavendon		
33.	Weston Turville	Debbie Gibb	
34.	Wexham Park	Rose Norey	
35.	Whiteleaf		
36.	Woburn		
37.	Wycombe Heights		

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1. **APOLOGIES**

Sue Ashworth	Co Captain
Susanna Mitterer	Seniors' Captain
Gilly Stimpson	Joint Competition Secretary
Di Davies	Joint Competition Secretary
Janet Beal	CJO
Christine Bishop	Handicap Advisor
Phillipa Cook	England Golf Rep
Tony Bowers	CTO
Janet Crooks	High Wycombe
Gilly Brewer	Harewood Downs
Beth McCunn	Aylesbury Park
Sue Martin	Flackwell Heath
Caroline Bond	Thorney Park
Caroline Bond	Thorney Park
Marilyn Plummer	Ellesborough
Sue Schmidt	Beaconsfield

2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true copy.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Page 5, item 6: Discussions regarding the insurance are almost concluded.

4. **CAPTAIN'S REPORT** – Sue Ashworth read in absence

Regional County Match Week in June was a resounding success. Not only did we host the event in the new 2½ day format, but for the 6th time in 7 years we won! A fantastic achievement & all credit to the players who achieved it, to the Denham staff and members for hosting the event and to Phillipa, Helen, Maura & Janet for their considerable contribution in ensuring everything ran as smoothly as possible. With extensive planning, preparation & the assistance from all the volunteers who gave up their time. I think it proved to be a great success & clearly the other 5 Midland South counties felt the same as it will remain as the shortened version in 2019 when Oxfordshire host the event at Frilford Heath (17th - 19th June).

We now progress to the English Women's National Finals held at Royal North Devon 17th -21st September. As has been the case in previous years, we lose some of our key players as a result of work or University commitments and so Tony & I have looked to our younger players in naming our squad for the National Finals. Ultimately, they are the ones who will carry our success forward and with some amazing handicap reductions this Summer we have 7 juniors included in our squad which will be:

(J) Hannah Cash (The Buckinghamshire)

(J) Amelia Curtis (Stoke Park)

Denise Goodacre (The Lambourne)

Rachel Goodwin (Harleyford)

Lily Robinson (Woburn)

(J) **Grace Rigby-Walden** (The Buckinghamshire)

(J) **Rosie Bee Kim** (The Buckinghamshire)

(J) **Thalia Kirby** (Stoke Park) (J) Daisy Kennedy (Stoke Park) Alice Kozlowski (Ellesborough) (J) **Olivia Lee** (Gerrards Cross) Georgina Bowers (Stoke Park)

For some, this will be their very first experience of CMW and the intense inter-county competition, for others it will be one of many they've attended and I trust the more experienced players will encourage & guide the youngsters amongst the team. With the

assistance of a £2,900 grant from England Golf I've secured self-catering accommodation adjacent to Royal North Devon GC & I'm grateful that Tony Bowers & Sally Harborne will be in attendance all week with Helen Mines & Janet Beal dovetailing their time with us. Our progress will be posted daily via the county website & although I'm aware it's a very long way to travel, if you're in the area or just fancy a couple of days by the seaside, please come along to support us & of course wear RED!

I've spent more time on courses as a 'spectator' than as a 'player' of late, but I thoroughly enjoyed my day at Whiteleaf for the **County Summer meeting** at the end of June. A gorgeous day, superbly organised by Sally with the usual Whiteleaf welcome & delicious food. Thank you Sally & your team of helpers for a great day & for the £310 raised from the 'pen sweep' for my charity (The Willow Foundation).

The launch of our new **County Grant** scheme at the beginning of the year has proved popular & we've had plenty of interest. Applications were invited by 1st April & 1st August with a total of £5K being set aside to help **any** BCLGA member should she wish to apply. Gail Sharp chairs the Committee receiving & reviewing these applications & I shall leave Gail to speak more about what's been happening this year.

Progress is continuing with the development of our **new County website** & we hope to 'go live' in the Autumn. We shall be asking for a panel of 'guinea pigs' (from you, the Delegates) to 'test-drive' the new site to make sure it's as easy to use as we think it is! It would be useful if some of the volunteers have had experience of using the current website whilst others may not be so familiar with navigating it in its current form. Obviously, we know what needs to be available & included on the new website, but we want to make sure you (the end-user) can actually find it!

Congratulations to both our Junior Handicap & Scratch Teams & also our County 2nd Team for reaching their respective Midland South Team Finals this year. Our 2nd Team played Hereford & Worcestershire in the final on 22nd August at the Oxford GC & our Junior handicap & scratch teams played Northants in their final on 28th August at Tadmarton Heath. I shall leave Janet & Janette to reveal the results, but well done to all the players who contributed to making it to the Finals once again this year!

Having been **Bucks Shield** winners for the past 5 years, Stoke Park are going to allow a different selection of contenders to compete on Finals Day this year which will be held on 14th September at Flackwell Heath. Burnham Beeches, Ellesborough, Harleyford & Woburn will do battle to win this most prestigious event & I can confidently say we will have a new champion club this year - best of luck to you all.

We have 3 representatives playing in the **EG Champion of Champions** this weekend (7th-9th Sept). Daisy Kennedy (Stoke Park) our County Champion, Denise Goodacre (Lambourne) our Senior County Champion & Olivia Lee (Gerrards Cross) our County Junior Champion. They will play against all the other County champions at Frilford Heath GC & I know they would appreciate 'Good Luck' messages from their home clubs if you'd like to prompt your respective Lady Captains please.

You'll be aware that we are slowly moving towards the introduction of the **World Handicapping System** & EG have been touring the country offering golf clubs & County Associations & Unions the opportunity to learn more about the proposed changes. If your club Handicap Secretary &/or management have not yet attended a workshop, please encourage them to do so as the next batch of venues & dates are now available through the EG website. A maximum of 3 representatives from each club are permitted & they can sign-up online.

This will be my last Delegate's meeting as your County Captain & it's unfortunate that I'm not able to attend today to say a proper cheerio to you all. My daughter's PhD Defence is taking place today in Freiberg, Germany & so I hope you'll forgive me on this occasion for putting my

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'family first'.

I'm sure I'll see many of you at the **County AGM** which is scheduled for 31st October at Harleyford GC. Please encourage your ladies to attend and more importantly ensure all trophies in your possession are returned to us on, or before the Interclub Foursomes which is also hosted by Harleyford GC on 17th October.

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - Sally Harborne

It seems a long time ago that we held our last Delegates meeting.

Finally the summer clicked into place and we have been able to enjoy some fantastic summer sunshine, maybe too hot for some , but no rain was a welcome change after the disastrous spring.

The highlight of my year was the County Summer meeting held at my own club Whiteleaf. The greenkeepers pulled out all the stops and produced a course in tremendous condition, the catering staff very helpful and the steward second to none on her day off with Michael our Pro in the background making sure everything went well. My thanks go to Gilly who worked very hard to enable the day to be enjoyed by so many. In the end we had 75 ladies playing in the morning and afternoon competitions.

We had two fantastic holes in one, one in the morning on the 5th hole and rather like busses another in the afternoon on the 18th hole. Bernie Howe who played in the afternoon very kindly made a donation to the County Captains Charity in recognition of her great achievement.

The prize winners were happy with their John Lewis vouchers and a full list of winners is available on the County Website.

The pen sweep made £310 for Sue's charity The Willow Foundation.

I have been to many events since our last meeting and it seems silly telling you about them all individually as they do appear in other reports.

Suffice it to say our 2nd Team have done extremely well this summer as Janette will report and our Juniors, as you will see from Janet's Autumn Newsletter, have been outstanding, achieving many wins all through the summer. We can be justifiable proud of our Juniors not only are 7 of them going to represent us at the National Finals at Royal North Devon later this month but many have reduced their handicaps over the summer months. They are real ambassadors for our County and have represented us in many matches against other Counties in Midland South events and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. There are a whole host of juniors in the wings waiting for their chance to represent us at County and National Level and we must thank Janet and Tony for the many hours they spend in training them and the various events that the Junior committee puts on for their benefit. They are a great bunch of young ladies and we are assured of a great County Team in the future. The girls are so lucky that so much time and effort is put into their enjoyment of the game, that their parents are willing and able to transport them from one end of the County to the other and support them in every way possible. They are all great friends and a new comer is soon welcomed and include. There is always a very happy buzz in any club house when they all meet and long may it last.

I wish our County Team the very best of luck at Royal North Devon. Many new friendships will be forged and I hope the girls will enjoy their time there.

6. VICE CAPTAIN'S REPORT - Gail Sharp

Grants/Bursaries

We have now completed the second tranche of applications for 2018, with 3 applications being considered, one being a second tranche to an earlier application.

In total we have supported 6 female players this year, (5 junior and 1 adult), with a total sum allocated of ± 4060 .

The closing date for applications for the first round of 2019 grants is 1st March 2019. The application process and forms will be on the new website.

7. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

(i) HON SECRETARY - Maura Spencer

None

(ii) HON TREASURER - Carolyn Rivett

Balances and Transfers as at 29th August 2018

Account Balances	£
HSBC Current	£24,533.18
Close Bros Deposit	£23,512.45
Significant Income	
Significant Expenditure	
Bursaries	£1,200.00

It has been agreed that we will close the Close Brothers Deposit Account, which no longer pays interest and try and look for an alternative which will pay interest.

(iii) **2nd TEAM CAPTAIN** - Janette Psyllides

The 2nd team have now completed their fixtures for 2018 and I am delighted to report that we have had an excellent year.

In April we played Oxfordshire at Huntercombe GC and won the match 7-2. In May we played Berkshire at Harleyford and also prevailed by a margin of 7-2. This put us at the top of our mini league and qualified us for the Midlands South Regional Final against the Northern winners, who were Hereford & Worcestershire.

The final took place on 22nd August at Oxford GC. Maggie Findley, the Oxfordshire 2nd Team Captain very kindly acted as starter in the morning. We had a strong team and took a commanding lead in the morning foursomes, coming from behind in the last group to win all 3 matches.

After a well earned lunch break and a couple of team changes the singles matches commenced. We knew that we needed to focus as H & W would come out fighting and the matches all proved very tight. Karen Pollard, the Oxfordshire County Captain acted as starter. The sun finally shone and despite some tense moments, we took the first 2 matches on the

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16th hole to ensure victory. The overall result finished with a 6-3 win for Bucks to retain the league title.

Thanks to Oxfordshire for hosting a great day at an interesting and challenging course, and to Herefordshire and Worcestershire who proved to be steely competitors and great sports. Thanks also to Gail Sharp, Vice County Captain; Sue Ashworth, County Captain; Sally Harborne, President; DI Davies, Joint Competitions Organiser and Tony Bowers, County Coach, for coming along to support the team – it was very much appreciated.

The players have been brilliant all season we have had a great blend of youth and experience and a great team spirit. They have come from the following clubs, Burnham Beeches, Gerrards Cross, Stoke Park, Flackwell Heath, Woburn, Buckingham, Wexham Park, The Buckinghamshire, Hazlemere and Denham - who should be very proud of the contribution made by their players.

(iv) <u>SENIORS' CAPTAIN</u> Susanna Mitterer read in absence

All Seniors' fixtures have now been played and results of our League matches are disappointing as we only managed 1 win against Oxfordshire and thus ended up joint last with only 2 points and a total of 9 ½ matches won.

League Matches	Results
Berks – 9 May at Burnham Beeches	Berks won 5 ½ to 1 ½
Hants – 22 May at Blackmoor	Hants won 5 to 2
Oxon – 6 June at Beaconsfield	Bucks won 4 ½ to 2 ½
Herts 13 June at Mill Green	Herts won 5 ½ to 1 ½

We have 1 team event left for this year, the Team Championship on 25 Sept at Highgate GC and I keep my fingers crossed that we will do well.

Our Autumn Meeting will be held at Oakland Park on 3rd October, entries have now closed and I'm delighted to say that we have 16 teams entered for the competition. I hope the weather will be good so that we can actually hold the event. After the cancellation of the Spring Meeting, I'm really looking forward to holding this final event of the Seniors' calendar.

If you had any ladies who turn 50 during the course of the year and who play off a handicap of 14 or lower, please notify me as they will be eligible to play for the County Seniors' from January 2019 onwards.

(v) **JOINT COMPETITION SECRETARY** - Di Davies read in absence

Bucks Shield – the final will take place on Friday 14th September at Flackwell Heath GC and our thanks go to Flackwell Heath for hosting the event this year. The four teams in the semi finals are Burnham Beeches, Ellesborough, Harleyford and Woburn which means that we will have a different winner this year. The current holders, Stoke Park, were beaten in the quarter finals by Harleyford. Stoke Park have been the holders of the trophy for the last 5 years.

Summer Knockouts – these are all reaching a conclusion and once the finalists are known we will be in a position to arrange the finals. So far the finalists for the Rose Bowl competition are known – this will be played between Barbara Briggs of Stoke Park and Gill Hepsworth of Burnham Beeches. The Challenge Cup final will be between Gilly Brewer of Harewood Downs and either Anne Terry of Magnolia Park or Dot Kelleher of Denham. The Champion of Champions will be between Jessica Turner of Ellesborough and Denise Goodacre of The Lambourn. The Summer Greensomes Final will be between Carolyn Howell and Jenny Gibson

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	of Woburn and either Jessica Pilgrim(Junior) and Rachel Mackinlay (Junior) of Stoke Park or Jackie Edwards and Pam Tierney of The Lambourn. It is hoped that more than one final can be	
	scheduled on a day to make it more of an occasion for the competitors, but diary commitments may prevent this from happening	
	Winter Foursomes – the entry forms are on the website – closing date for entries is 15 th September and to date not many forms have been received. Please can you remind ladies to submit their entries if they would like to participate? Players are asked to be as flexible as possible when arranging matches – please bear in mind holidays, work or school commitments	
	before entering. Interclub Foursomes – entries are coming in slowly, so please remind your Lady Captain to	
	send in your Club's completed form as soon as possible. The closing date for entries is Monday 1 st October.	DEL
(vi)	JOINT COMPETITION SECRETARY - Gilly Stimpson read in absence	
	The Summer League is now in the last round with most of the matches having been played.	
	The results are up to date on the website.	
	Trophies	
	The trophies for this year are presented at the AGM on 31 st October. If your Club or any Members of your Club won a trophy, which was presented last October, can you please ensure	
	it is returned to me before the AGM. I will be at the Interclub Foursomes in October and	DEL
	would appreciate them being brought to that competition by your Club's entrants.	
	Cygnet Trophy	
	The scores from your clubs and entry monies are due by the 5 th October. Please remind your	DEL
	Captain or Competition Secretaries.	
	Charity Eclectic	
	The scores and entry monies for this annual competition are now due by 21 st October with the competition closing on 15 th September.	
	Winter League	
	The Winter League entry date has now past and we continue to get fewer teams entering which is disappointing. The draw has been sent out to the contacts provided by the Clubs. Fingers crossed for a mild and dry winter!	
(vii)	CJO - Janet Beal read in absence	
	A Junior Newsletter is attached to the minutes	
(viii)	HANDICAP ADVISOR - Christine Bishop read in absence	
	I continue to answer queries regarding handicaps and competitions.	
	I have run 2019 Rules Seminars at Whiteleaf, Wavendon and Stowe and have bookings for	
	Buckingham, Oakland Park, Wycombe, Hazlemere, Chiltern Forest and Stoke Park. The	
	seminar I have developed is being used across the BB&O to provide a consistent approach to	
	introducing the 2019 Rules to club members.	
	England Golf have released dates for the next round of World Handicapping Seminars and I have been notified that the following Bucks clubs did not attend the first round of seminars in	
	April this year. They are:	
	AYLESBURY PARK GOLF CLUB BEACONSFIELD GOLF CLUB	
	BLETCHLEY GOLF CLUB	
	CHILTERN FOREST GOLF CLUB	
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DATCHET GOLF CLUB DENHAM ARTISANS GOLF CLUB DENHAM GOLF CLUB FLACKWELL HEATH GOLF CLUB HAREWOOD DOWNS GOLF CLUB HARLEYFORD GOLF CLUB HAZLEMERE GOLF CLUB HEDSOR GOLF COURSE IVER GOLF CLUB PRINCES RISBOROUGH GOLF CLUB STOWE GOLF CLUB THE LAMBOURNE GOLF CLUB THE SOUTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE THORNEY PARK GOLF CLUB WINDMILL HILL GOLF CLUB

Please can the Delegate from the above clubs contact the appropriate officer(s) within their club and urge them to sign up for the next seminars on the England Golf website. The workshops will focus on World Handicapping but there will also be a session on 2019 Rules of Golf.

(ix) **CTO** - Tony Bowers read in absence

County Match Week - Once again Bucks were successful at CMW for the 6th time in the last 7 years

A fantastic result for the team who all performed fantastically well in the new 2 and a half day format and we are now taking a very strong and very young squad down to the Nationals in September at Royal North Devon.

Any support would be greatly appreciated by all the Team.

I attended the final round robin scratch match v Berks at Mill Ride on August 4th and the team had a great result winning 3-0 with some fantastic golf being played by our very talented youngsters. As a result they qualified for the Mid-South team finals held at Tadmarton Heath. On 26th August I attended the Mid -South Scratch/Handicap Championships at Temple GC.

The event was marred by awful weather, constant heavy rain and as a consequence the afternoon rounds were cancelled. There was some great golf in the morning and Amelia Curtis finished a very creditable 2nd in the scratch event.

On 28th August I attended the Mid South Team Finals at Tadmarton Heath and although the Bucks teams performed extremely well, they finished 2nd in both events not helped by slightly under strength squads due to event clashes and holidays, also the fact that so many of our Juniors' handicaps have plummeted throughout the season. Clearly victims of our own success!

We held 2 training sessions for the Intermediate squads through the summer, both at the RMS school in Rickmansworth. These sessions were well attended and the girls performed very well in the skills challenges that I set them. It's great to see the fantastic improvements in their skills sets. These sessions bring together a wide variety of girls who can meet new players to arrange games etc at each other's clubs.

Finally, I attended the Junior County Championships at Burnham Beeches last Thursday and the weather was fantastic for the event. The golf on display was just as good.

The overall winner was Olivia Lee with a gross 78 for the 2nd year running but there were lots of other fantastic scores and performances too.

A special mention goes to Lily Rigby-Walden who I watched play down the last couple of holes and on the 18th hole, a par 5, Lily hit a fantastic drive followed by a lovely hybrid chip to 8ft and then holed the putt for a birdie nett ALBATROSS!....Need I say more!

(x) **ENGLAND GOLF REPRESENTATIVE** - Phillipa Cook read in absence

There is little to report at this meeting as the next Voting Members' meeting is next week at Woodhall Spa.

An additional Voting Members' meeting was held at Copt Heath on 3rd July to try and resolve the issue of the rise in affiliation fees. The Board had proposed that the affiliation fee be set at £9.50 for 2019. The level for future years would be considered through the long-term Business Plan, which would be discussed and debated over the coming months. This proposal did not get the required approval at the April meeting and so the additional meeting was called.

Some additional financial information was given out on the day of the July meeting. This meant that some counties were considering changing their vote to accept the affiliation fee increase but they only had a mandate from their county to vote against the proposal. The vote on the proposal to increase the affiliation fee was therefore adjourned until the September Voting Members' meeting, next week. This delayed decision about the 2019 fees will give just enough time for the fee to be notified to the counties in advance of them sending out their 2019 invoices to the clubs.

All the Midland South competitions have now been held with a good attendance at all of them. Next year Berkshire will host a new competition, the Seniors' Championships which will be an 18-hole stroke play event. At the conclusion of County Week at Denham the Midland South Voting Members met with James Crampton to have a general discussion about the Regional competitions.

USGA RATING:

Eight courses have been rated so far this year:-

Beaconsfield, Burnham Beeches, Denham, Ellesborough, Stoke Park (Lane Jackson), Woburn Dukes, Duchess & Marquess.

A further two courses will be rated in the next few weeks (Buckingham & Harleyford). This will make the total for the year 10 and the total number of Bucks courses rated 31. The remaining courses will be done next year.

WEBSITE:

Nothing to report on the current website.

COUNTY MATCH WEEK, 18th to 20th JUNE:

As you will know this year's County Week was held over three days rather than the full week. As the first county to host the event in this shortened form there was a huge amount of work involved but it was satisfying to show that this format is quite feasible. The event ran very smoothly and thanks should be recorded to all those volunteers who gave up their time to help. Particular thanks to Helen Mines for all her hard work on the admin side and to Janet Beal for making sure that all was in order on the rules and refereeing side of things.

Denham are to be congratulated on hosting this successful event. The course was in excellent condition, the club house facilities worked very well and the food was as ever, exceptional. The management, staff and members were extremely friendly and helpful.

At the County Week Debrief Meeting on 31st July the six counties were asked to vote on whether they would like 2019 to be a 3 or 5-day event. The vote went in favour of the shortened format. It was agreed that the 3-day format should be adopted for CMW 2019 and after that event the counties would vote again at the 2019 Debrief Meeting to decide which format would be taken forward for the foreseeable future.

Other Regions were anxiously waiting to see how our County Week went, waiting to decide

whether to change the format for their own Region's County Week. I have already sent an information pack to two Regions giving details of how the our County Week was organised. I will be sending a full report to James Crampton for distribution to those on the EG Championship Working Group as the County Week format will be an item on the agenda for their meeting in October.

8. **EXECUTIVE VACANCIES**

Because we were faced with recruiting two new Competition Secretaries at once, we decided to work with one Competition Secretary (who would be an Executive member) and recruit a team of volunteers reporting to the Competition Secretary, who would each look after a different aspect of the competition calendar. Gilly Stimpson has agreed to remain as Competition Secretary for one more year. Jackie Maher, (Burnham Beeches), has agreed to coordinate the knockouts. We have another likely volunteer for the Bucks Shield and Interclub Foursomes, so we just need to find one volunteer for the

running of the Leagues.

There are no other vacancies on the Executive Committee. However, the position of Junior match organiser is still vacant.

9. **NEW COUNTY WEBSITE**

The new website is coming along well.

5 Delegate volunteers have agreed to test the new website and the results of their findings are to be returned to Sue Ashworth by 12th September.

10. **DELEGATES FORUM**

No questions were raised

^{11.} **AGM**

Will be held on Wednesday 31st October, Harleyford GC starting at 2pm. Please encourage your ladies to attend and more importantly ensure all trophies in your possession are returned to us on or before the Interclub Foursomes event at Harleyford GC on 17th October.

12. **A.O.B.**

A new form is to be put on the old and new websites to enable lady members to sign up to go on the database for personal communication purposes. This form is required under the GDPR requirements.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 5th December 2018 at Buckingham Golf Club, Tingewick Road, MK18 4AE Short game clinic 10.30 to 11.30; Formal meeting starts at 11.45

Signed.....Date.....Date